

# **Ministerial Conference on International Transport Security**

January 12-13, 2006, Tokyo, Japan

## **Summary**

The Ministerial Conference on International Transport Security took place from January 12 to 13, 2006 in Tokyo, with Japan's Ministry of Land, Infrastructure and Transport as the hosting body. Representatives of fourteen countries, the European Commission, and three international organizations took part: Australia, Canada, China, France, Germany, Indonesia, Italy, Japan, the Republic of Korea, Malaysia, the Russian Federation, Singapore, the United Kingdom (U.K.), the United States of America (U.S.), the European Commission (EC), the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO), the International Maritime Organization (IMO) and the World Customs Organization (WCO).

The conference consisted of four sessions, which each addressed a respective issue:

- 1) maritime security;
- 2) aviation security;
- 3) land transport security;
- 4) adoption of the Ministerial Declaration;  
a separate discussion on avian influenza and adoption of the Ministerial Statement on Transport and Influenza

### **Session 1: Maritime Security**

The session opened with keynote speeches made by Mr. Efthimios E. Mitropoulos, Secretary General of IMO, and Mr. Kunio Mikuriya, Deputy Secretary General of WCO. They referred to the progress made by these organizations in international maritime security field and gave their perspectives on international maritime security.

Next, twelve delegates (Australia, Canada, China, Indonesia, Italy, Japan, the Republic of Korea, the Russian Federation, Singapore, U.K., U.S., and EC) gave presentations on their experiences and perspectives on international maritime security.

Finally, the delegates adopted the Ministerial Statement that highlighted the following initiatives for directions for further enhancement of the security in international maritime transport sector:

- Enhancing security of the maritime transport of containers in the international supply chain
- Enhancing security of ships other than those covered by SOLAS Chapter XI-2 and ISPS Code
- Enhancing security of the Straits of Malacca and Singapore
- Promoting international cooperation on security in port facilities and on Port State Control (PSC) to ensure continued compliance with SOLAS Chapter XI-2 and ISPS Code

## **Session 2: Aviation Security**

This session began with a keynote speech by Dr. Assad Kotaite, President of the Council of ICAO.

Next, twelve delegates (Australia, Canada, China, Germany, Indonesia, Japan, the Republic of Korea, the Russian Federation, Singapore, U.K., U.S., and EC) introduced the experiences and perspective of their countries.

Based on these presentations, the delegates adopted the Ministerial Statement on Aviation Security, which stresses the following common principles and future directions for international aviation security:

- Implementing and enforcing ICAO rules and encouraging their application to domestic operations, where appropriate
- Improving screening capability by sharing technologies and promoting international cooperation in research and development
- Working bilaterally and multilaterally to achieve a high level of security in screening procedures
- Facilitating passenger travel in a manner that does not compromise security by various methods including biometrics
- Developing best practices for air cargo security
- Increasing capacity building efforts to ensure the integrity of aviation security worldwide
- Encouraging States to register with the ICAO Aviation Security Point of Contact Network

## **Session 3: Land Transport Security**

The session on land transport security opened with a speech by Mr. Norman Y. Mineta, Secretary of U.S. Department of Transportation, followed by presentations by delegates from Australia, France, Germany, Italy, Japan, the Russian Federation, U.K., and EC.

They then adopted the Ministerial Statement on Land Transport Security at the conference, thereby agreeing on the following future directions for this sphere:

- Sharing of best practices for land transport security
- Promoting international cooperation in research and in the development of technology capable of detecting and monitoring potential threats
- Encouraging cooperation among government authorities, land transport operators, and all relevant stakeholders
- Encouraging consideration of the creation of an international working group to facilitate the sharing of best practices and enhance global cooperation, building on the results of the existing work at G8 and other international fora

#### **Session 4: Adoption of Ministerial Declaration / Transport and Avian Flu / Conclusion**

The Ministerial Declaration was adopted in this final session, setting in place the foundation for international action on the following points:

- Taking every practicable measure to prevent terrorist acts against transport systems
- Valuing very highly the significant efforts of international organizations such as IMO, ICAO and WCO
- Giving high priority to addressing remaining vulnerabilities to terrorist acts
- Paying special attention to capacity building assistance to those states that have not yet fully addressed the security threats to transport
- Affirming that security measures must be compatible with facilitating the legitimate flow of people and goods
- Encouraging all States to join us in taking steps to enhance transport security worldwide, recognizing the importance of more active and wide-ranging international and domestic cooperation

At the suggestion on the delegate from U.S., the delegates took advantage of this gathering to add a Statement on transportation and influenza to this session's agenda. The Statement covered the following major points:

- Sharing the concerns of the international community regarding avian influenza and the possible development, arising from this, of a new variant of influenza capable of human-to-human transmission
- Endeavouring to minimize any negative impact for transport systems arising from such diseases, noting the extensive actions already being taken by our respective governments and relevant international organizations

The conference was concluded with closing remarks from the chair, and with a joint press conference (including a session of Q&A with the members of the press) attended by the heads of the delegations.